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Modern Greek-English Dictionary with a Cypriote Vocabulary. By A. KYRIAKIDES. Athens, Anesti Constantinides. London, William & Nigate, 1909. 15s.

English-speaking people learning Modern Greek and Greeks learning English will find a valuable aid in Kyriakides' Modern Greek Dictionary. The vocabulary is full; the shades of meaning finely drawn, the translation generally accurate. The sprinkling of the technical terms of the Arts and Sciences will be found useful and the introduction of characteristic proverbs interesting. There is, however, a tendency to purism; e. g., *γελοιοποιήσις, εὐκταῖος, εὐσύννοπος, ἐρυσιβώδης, καθ' ὅσον ἐφικτόν, ἐπιτετη-δευμένον ὕφος, νωδός*, etc., etc., are words and terms hardly ever used and barely understood by the ordinary Greek, and the translation of the Greek phrases into English might be simplified for the Greek student, e. g., *τὸ φαρμάκι τοῦ ἔφαγε τὰ σωτικά*, 'the poison corroded his entrails'; *τὸ σχοινὶ ἐφαγώθη*, 'the rope is frayed'; *ὁ σκοπὸς τοῦ τραγουδιοῦ*, 'the burden of his song'; *μὴ γελείσαι*, 'do not delude yourself'; *αὐτὸ δὲν μοῦ γεμίζει τὸ μάτι*, 'this is not a great matter'; *ὁ στόμαχος ἐπεξεργάζεται τὰς τροφάς*, 'the stomach elaborates food'; *ἡ φυσικὴ κατάστασις ἐπιδρῶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ὕφους*, 'the physique of a man exerts an influence over his moral faculties', etc., etc., could be rendered by English forms more readily understood.

Such ancient proverbs as: *ὃψὲ θεῶν ἀλέουσι μύλοι, ἀλέουσι δὲ λεπτά*, "Ἄλλαι μὲν βουλαὶ ἀνθρώπων ἄλλα δὲ θεὸς κελεύει, would find a more fitting place in the *Paroemiographi Graeci*. Their modern equivalents would be more characteristic of the modern spirit and atmosphere: e. g., *ὁ θεὸς ἀργεῖ μὰ δὲν ἀλησμονεῖ*; "Ἄλλα σκαμπάζ' ὁ γαῖδαρος καὶ ἄλλα ὁ γαῖδουρολάτης. When we consider that this dictionary is destined by the author primarily for the use of Greeks sojourning among English-speaking people, and secondly, for the English, who are learning Greek; that ninety-five per cent. of the former have but a very limited knowledge of English, and that only of the most popular form, and that very few of the latter have any grammatical knowledge of Modern Greek, a Modern Greek Dictionary could not be made too simple for either. A closer adherence to the spoken idiom, a systematic rendering of the principal tenses with illustrations, the translation of the indicative by the indicative: e. g., *βγάζω τὴν μύξαν μου*, 'I blow my nose', not 'to blow one's nose', would have enhanced the value of Kyriakides' work. Dealing, however, with such an elusive subject as Modern Greek—elusive in matter and form—is a Herculean labor and when the last word is said the fact remains that Kyriakides' Modern Greek Dictionary is a valuable book and, to use his own words, a serviceable *vade mecum*.